

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 199053
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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 199053

(CORRECTED COPY FOR OMISSION PARA THREE)

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PORG, UNGA

SUBJECT: WELLS/PETREE MISSION; UPDATE ON SOUTHERN
AFRICA AND MIDDLE EAST

REF: ISLAMABAD 8315

1. PER PARAGRAPH TWO REFTTEL, MISSIONS MAY PASS FOLLOWING
INFORMATION TO HOST GOVERNMENTS.

2. NAMIBIA: WE BELIEVE EXPLORATORY EFFORTS OF THE
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PAGE 02 STATE 199053

CONTACT GROUP MAY HAVE POSITIONED ELEMENTS FOR A
SOLUTION IN NAMIBIA IN KEEPING WITH SECURITY COUNCIL
RESOLUTION 385. SOUTH AFRICA HAS MADE CERTAIN CONCESSIONS,
INCLUDING ABANDONMENT OF ETHNICALLY BASED CONSTITUTION
FOR NAMIBIA AND APPOINTMENT OF A SINGLE ADMINISTRATOR
GENERAL, RELEASE OF NAMIBIAN POLITICAL PRISONERS WITH
IMPARTIAL PANEL TO DETERMINE WHO IS OR IS NOT A

POLITICAL PRISONER; RETURN OF ALL NAMIBIAN EXILES;
PHASED WITHDRAWAL OF SOUTH AFRICAN FORCES; AND FREE
ELECTIONS TO BE HELD IN PRESENCE OF A UN SPECIAL
REPRESENTATIVE WHO MUST BE SATISFIED AT ALL STAGES
AS TO FAIRNESS OF THE POLITICAL PROCESS. THESE
CONCESSIONS DO NOT SEEM FULLY TO MEET TERMS OF 385
OR DEMANDS OF SWAPO. QUESTION OF PHASED WITHDRAWAL

OF SOUTH AFRICAN FORCES IS PROVING PARTICULARLY
DIFFICULT AND SEVERAL OTHER THORNY ISSUES REMAIN
TO BE NEGOTIATED. AT AUGUST 8-11 TALKS WITH CONTACT
GROUP IN NEW YORK, SWAPO SHOWED ITSELF FLEXIBLE IN
SOME AREAS AND LESS SO IN OTHERS, BUT AGREEMENT WAS
REACHED THAT NEGOTIATIONS HOLD POSSIBILITIES FOR
ACCEPTABLE RESOLUTION OF NAMIBIA QUESTION ALTHOUGH
FURTHER DISCUSSIONS WILL BE NECESSARY. (FYI: FURTHER
DESCRIPTION OF TALKS WITH SWAPO MUST AWAIT BRIEFINGS
YET TO BE GIVEN TO THE FRONT LINE AFRICAN STATES AND
SOUTH AFRICA. END FYI) TIME HAS COME FOR UN TO BEGIN
TO PLAY A CENTRAL ROLE IN NAMIBIAN INDEPENDENCE PROCESS
AND WE HAVE URGED WALDHEIM TO BEGIN PRELIMINARY
PLANNING ESSENTIAL TO SUCCESSFUL UN INVOLVEMENT. WE
PLAN TO REPEAT THIS REQUEST. IF PARTIES CAN REACH
AGREEMENT, AND THIS IS BY NO MEANS ASSURED, A
SECURITY COUNCIL MANDATE WILL BE NECESSARY BEFORE
UN ACTIVITIES COULD BEGIN IN NAMIBIA.
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PAGE 03 STATE 199053

3. RHODESIA: WE REMAIN ENGAGED WITH THE BRITISH
IN EFFORTS TO DEVISE ACCEPTABLE SOLUTIONS TO THE
RHODESIA QUESTION. WE AND BRITISH HAVE DEVELOPED
WHAT WE FEEL TO BE A FAIR AND REASONABLE PLAN FOR
SETTLEMENT AND, IN NEAR FUTURE, WE EXPECT TO PRESENT
THIS PLAN TO THE PARTIES. SOON THEREAFTER WE WILL BE
MAKING THE PLAN PUBLIC. NEGOTIATIONS ARE AT
EXCEPTIONALLY DELICATE STAGE AND EVENTS ARE MOVING
VERY RAPIDLY. IN VIEW UNCERTAINTIES

SURROUNDING NEGOTIATIONS, WE DO NOT FEEL THAT
THOROUGH UPDATE WOULD BE APPROPRIATE AT THIS STAGE.
IF PAKS WISH TO REQUEST FULLER BRIEFING FROM
DEPARTMENT IN WASHINGTON, WE WOULD BE HAPPY TO OBLIGE
WHEN SITUATION PERMITS.

4. MIDDLE EAST: IF GOVERNMENTS INQUIRE ABOUT
RESULTS OF SECRETARY'S TRIP TO MIDDLE EAST YOU
SHOULD SUGGEST THEY SEEK FILL-IN FROM DEPARTMENT.
ISSUES ARE SUFFICIENTLY COMPLEX THAT BRIEFING AT
THAT REMOVE COULD LEAD TO SOME MISUNDERSTANDINGS

ON PART OF GOVERNMENTS NOT ALREADY FAMILIAR WITH
THEM.

CHRISTOPHER

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